



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY

UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE



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2023/Issue 35 Jesuit Community Presbytery : 9628 5013 27th August 2023

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Pastoral Associate
Site Manager
Secretary
Music Director
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

Fr Greg Jacobs SJ
Fr Patrick Mullins, SJ
Sr Carlene Allen RSM
Ray Donaldson
Malia Lolesio
Eddie Paunga Lolesio
Marissa Logronio

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MASS TIMES - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH - EMERTON

Saturday Vigil : 5.30pm Sunday: 9.00 am and 10.30 am

JOHN TERRY CHAPEL (DAY CHAPEL)

Monday 8.30am Mass
Tuesday 6.00pm Mass
Wednesday 6.00pm Mass
Thursday 8.30am Mass
Friday 9.00am Mass
Saturday 9.00am Mass



MASS AT WILLMOT CHURCH

Sunday 7.30am
Cnr Pelsart & Carteret Ave Willmot

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY HOUR—EMERTON

Saturday from 9.30 am to 10.00 am

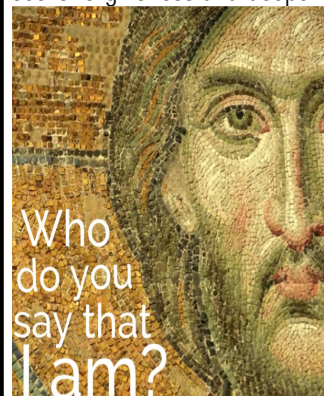
REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

The saying goes: "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely"; that is, unless it is from God, because God's power is different. God's power is about being of service, about being a shepherd, about being the power of weakness (through the cross).

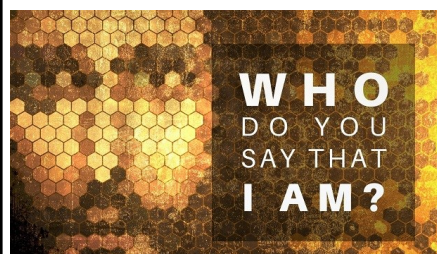
The Hebrew Scriptures remind us of the way that God works with the people. Moses is more like a shepherd leading the people out of slavery than a ruler over them. God wanted to be a Father to the Israelites, but they wanted a king like other people around them. So eventually he raises up two great kings: David is a very powerful king, yet flawed individual. Solomon knows his own limitations as a ruler and so asks for wisdom and a discerning heart rather than strength and might.

Peter, who is equally flawed, is at least open to the grace of God's revelation about Jesus. He eventually come to refer to himself as "servant and apostle" (2 Peter 1:1). But it was a long journey for Peter. He had to fight with his own inclinations to power and prestige; he had to fight his own weakness and temptations to disown Jesus, and his own lack of faith. But one of Peter's great gifts is that he always returns to Jesus, he seeks forgiveness and deepens his relationship in the process.



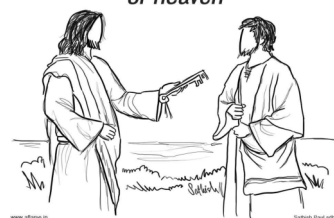
The question is then being put to us: "Who do you say the Son of Man is?" Can you recognize Jesus walking in the streets and living in your home and at your work? This is a question of faith not knowledge, so it is OK to admit, "I do believe, help my unbelief" (Mk 9:24). So let us learn from Peter that, firstly when we fall and lose focus on Jesus, that we always return to him. And secondly, that we use our power, our leadership, as a "servant and apostle" of Christ's mission, and not for our own glory.

Fr Gregory



SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR A YEAR OF MATTHEW 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Keys to the kingdom
of heaven



LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 22:19-23

The Lord appoints Eliakim over the house of Judah.

Thus says the Lord God of hosts: Go to the steward, to Shebna, who is master of the household, and say to him: "I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your post. On that day I will call my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah, and will clothe him with your robe and bind your sash on him. I will commit your authority to his hand, and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. "I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and no one shall shut; he shall shut, and no one shall open. I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honour to the house of his ancestors."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8, v.8

**Lord Your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the Angels I sing your praise;
I bow down toward your holy temple,
and give thanks to your name
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness. R.

For you have exalted your name
and your word above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul. R.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.
Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands. R.

SECOND READING: Romans 11: 33-36

Who knows the mind of God?

O the depths of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counsellor?" "Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 16: 13-20

You are Peter to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the Prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

The Gospel of the Lord.



READINGS FOR SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2023 – 22nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME in YEAR A

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27



SUPPORT OUR RETIRED PRIESTS

who never stop giving their lives in
service to our Catholic community.

Appeal 2nd/3rd September



Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal **DONATE NOW**

Our priests never stop giving their lives in service to our community. They dedicate themselves to carrying out God's ministry for as long as they are able. This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. Your compassionate donation will help our Clergy Support Foundation to care for our priests, and provide them with personalised health and wellbeing support. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or scan this QR code.

Thank you.



WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

LIST OF THE SICK: Fr Patrick Mullins SJ, Guillermo Lopez, John Williams, Jacob Kelly, Dermot Murray, Karen Bartolo, Emma Datoc, Val Polkamp, Imaculata Leota, Malia Leota, Margaret Kearney, Paul Peters, Maria Barbara, Sylvia Greene, Baby Gabriella Mafi, Nanding Flores, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Kilisimasi Lolesio, Faith Nimmo, Vaha Vave, Tualau Vave, Mayda Attachian, Faye Iffland, Tim Meagher, Cristina Frugone, Zarouf Mallouk, George Mallouk, Gloria Cutcliffe, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Boyet Llave, Fe Llave, Edwards, Fara Vargas.

ANNIVERSARIES: Arturo Mori, Ann-Marie De Riviere, May Ball, Loreta Balbin, Lina Fauvette, George McKay, Robyn Eberl, Baby Chan Dumo, Norrie Anderson, Fr Steve Hogan, Nancy Boyle, Sione Kiteau, Anne Doreen King, Sr Anne-Marie Webb SM, Baby Paul Hepburn, Victor Zarseczny, Eddy Russell, Felix Gando, Raymond Bellette, Dorothy Bamdee, Vera Anderson, Grace Rodriguez, Kathleen Kogan, Lillian May Magennis, John Fuller, Tuimalo Lanosa Sefulin, Grahame Kennedy, Michael Wilkinson, Piusho Serra.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kerry Roseworn.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday:
9.00am—4.30pm
Friday:
9.00am—3.30pm

CLOSED ON WEEKENDS
Note: Staff meetings held on
Tuesdays 9.15am—10.00am

SUPPORT US ONLINE

For contributions towards the 1st Collection, for the clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta, please use the following details:

Acc Name: Diocesan Clergy

BSB: 067 950

Acc No: 0000 4265

Reference: 6024 (followed by your name).

For contributions towards the 2nd Collection, for our parish expenses, please use the following details:

Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church

BSB: 067 950

Acc No: 0000 0446

Reference: Envelope No OR Your full name).

PARISH COLLECTIONS:

for the weekend of the 19th/20th August 2023

1st collection (for the clergy of the Diocese):	\$ 699.55
2nd collection (for parish expenses):	\$1,714.50

**Help our Vinnies
conference president
Georg Eberl
support the homeless
this winter**

If you would like
to make a contribution
please follow link below

[https://
my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/
western-sydney-vinnies-
community-sleepout-2023/](https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/western-sydney-vinnies-community-sleepout-2023/)



Liturgical Ministry Course
BEGINS SEPTEMBER 2023

This is formation for anyone
interested in serving within the
Liturgical Ministries as Readers,
Extraordinary Ministers of
Communion, Communion to Sick and
Dying and Ministers at the Altar.

To register or find out more contact
mary.gale@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795



Let us take this opportunity to show
our appreciation and gratitude as we...

Farewell Fr Pat!



// Sunday 27th August // from 12.00pm //
// Holy Family Primary School Hall //
// 11 Emert Pde Emerton NSW 2770 //

We will have a shared lunch. Please bring a dish and drinks to share

Praying with the Saints

This week, we celebrate the feast days of some of the greatest Saints in our Church. Why not make an activity out of learning about and praying with the Saints this week with your family and friends.

ST MONICA—Feast Day: 27th August

Monica was born in Tagaste, Nth Africa, in the year 331. She died in Ostia, Italy, in 387. Before her marriage, her faith bore fruit in her recovery from a drinking problem and later helped bring her husband and mother-in-law to Christianity. She undertook many years of penance and prayer for her brilliant but wayward son Saint Augustine. Following his conversion and baptism in Milan, she died at the beginning of her journey home to Africa. St Monica is remembered for her parental devotion, her patience, and her persistence in prayer. She is the patron saint of alcoholics, conversion, married women and mothers.

ST AUGUSTINE—Feast Day: 28th August

Augustine was born at Tagaste, Nth Africa, in 354. He died at Hippo in 430. Though enrolled by his mother Monica as a catechumen, he renounced the Christian faith and espoused Manicheism. He taught in Carthage, Rome, and Milan. He lived for fifteen years with a woman, who remains unknown and with whom he had a son, named Adeodatus. He was baptised in 387, together with his son, after a long inner struggle and under the influence of Saint Ambrose, and the prayers of his mother, Saint Monica. He became Bishop of Hippo for thirty-four years, and lived a communal life with his clergy and served the many needs of his people at a time of political and cultural collapse. He is remembered as a model pastor and as a preacher and writer, whose thought has had an enduring influence in Christian history. Saint Augustine is the patron saint of printers and theologians.

THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST—Feast Day: 29th August

It is John the Baptist who has pointed the way to Christ. John's life and death were a giver over of self for God and other people. His simple style of life was one of complete detachment from earthly possessions. His heart was centered on God and the call that he heard from the Spirit of God speaking to his heart. Confident of God's grace, he had the courage to speak words of condemnation, repentance, and salvation.

Each of us has a calling to which we must listen. No one will ever repeat the mission of John, and yet all of us are called to that very mission. It is the role of the Christian to witness to Jesus.

Whatever our position in this world, we are called to be disciples of Christ. By our words and deeds, others should realise that we live in the joy of knowing that Jesus is Lord. We do not have to depend upon our own limited resources, but can draw strength from the vastness of Christ's saving grace.

Source: © 2020 Franciscan Media.



HOLY FAMILY PARISH VISION

Holy Family Mt Druitt is a welcoming community:
 † on a journey towards a personal encounter with Jesus;
 † called to unity and celebrating our diversity;
 † living and sharing the joy of the Gospel.



Listen, Learn, Love

A New Engagement with
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Peoples



About Social Justice Sunday and the Bishops Social Justice Statement

With a tradition stretching back to 1940, the Australian Bishops Conference contributes to the development of local Catholic Social Teaching by releasing a major social justice statement each year in the lead up to Social Justice Sunday, which this year falls on Sunday 27 August. These statements encourage the Catholic community to reflect and act on the social, economic and ecological aspects of the Church's mission.

The title of the Social Justice Statement 2023-24 is *Listen, Learn, Love: A new engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples*. It includes experiences and views shared by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) and calls for the Church – and society more widely – to listen to, engage and address the pain of First Nations Peoples in new ways, in order to bring an end to centuries of injustice.

The Bishop's Social Justice Statement discusses the upcoming referendum regarding Indigenous Constitutional recognition through a Voice to Parliament as an important moment for Australia as we listen to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters on this important decision. The Statement encourages Catholics and wider Australia to seek out and carefully consider information about the proposal, with special reference to the hopes and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The contribution of NATSICC to the Statement includes these comments:

Australians have an opportunity to begin a new chapter this year with the referendum on the Voice to Parliament... We, NATSICC, feel that the referendum is too important to fail. The consequences for our people and the whole nation would be devastating.

NATSICC in 'Listen, Learn, Love'

As encouraged by the Statement, CSSV has been actively engaged in facilitating dialogues, sharing information and listening to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people about the proposed Voice to Parliament. In February 2023, CSSV released Relentlessly Pursuing Reconciliation in which CSSV's support for the Voice, along with treaty and truth-telling, were outlined. This concluded with the words:

We have reached a time of great possibility in making meaningful reparation for the past and building a better future – in this moment it is the offer of a constitutional referendum to decide upon a Voice to the Australian Parliament. We know that the success of any referendum relies on a 'double majority' vote in the affirmative. We implore each member of the Victorian and Australian community to make every effort to ensure this valuable opportunity is not missed. By finding common ground, setting aside political differences and seizing this as an opportunity to listen and learn we can positively bring into being a time where all in Australia "may have life and have it abundantly".

This Social Justice Sunday we encourage you to reflect on the place of First Nations Peoples, new ways we can engage and walk together, and the importance of the upcoming referendum and the outcomes that will lead to better consultation, improved policies and services, and stronger communities.

Source: © Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, 2023.

A Prayer for Hope

God our Father
We praise you, bless you and thank you.
We have everything because of you.
You are good and we love You.

Jesus our Brother,
you came into this world
to show us the way of love.
You bring good news to those who are poor and oppressed.
You are one with those who suffer.
You are one with the First Peoples of Australia.
Amidst all their pain, you give them hope
that justice, reconciliation and peace will flow
and that they will find their rightful place in our common home.

Creator Spirit,
you have moved through this land since the beginning of time.
You bless Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with the wisdom
that enables them to care for each other and to care for country.
Fill us all with humility and love
so that we listen with respect to their wisdom and learn from them.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples invite us to journey with
them towards a new day where there is healing and justice for them
and for all Australians.

As we prepare to vote in the referendum on a Voice to Parliament,
may we befriend them and listen to them with deep respect.
Shape us into a community of love
which is a sign of your divine communion of love.
Help us to show all Australians how to build a civilisation of love in this
land now and in the years to come.
In You we place all our trust and hope.

Amen

World Day of Migrant and Refugees celebration: 16 September

You're warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-and-migrants-tickets-675662363317?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Diocesan Adult Confirmation: 5 September

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.